

## Draft Guidance on Tapentadol Hydrochloride

This draft guidance, once finalized, will represent the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) current thinking on this topic. It does not create or confer any rights for or on any person and does not operate to bind FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if the approach satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations. If you want to discuss an alternative approach, contact the Office of Generic Drugs.

**Active ingredient:** Tapentadol Hydrochloride

**Form/Route:** Tablet/Oral

**Recommended studies:** **2 Options: BCS or In-Vivo Studies**

### I. BCS Waiver option:

It may be possible to request a waiver of in-vivo testing for all the strengths of this product provided that the appropriate documentation regarding high solubility, high permeability and rapid dissolution as detailed in the Guidance for Industry: *Waiver of In Vivo Bioavailability and Bioequivalence for Immediate – Release Solid Oral Dosage Forms Based on the Biopharmaceutics Classification System* is submitted in the application. You may use information contained in the approved labeling of the reference product. Peer reviewed articles may not contain the necessary details of the testing for the Agency to make a judgment regarding the quality of the studies. A decision regarding the acceptability of the waiver request can only be made upon review of the data submitted in the application.

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### II. In-vivo BE studies option:

1. Type of study: Fasting  
Design: Single-dose, two-way crossover in-vivo  
Strength: 100 mg  
Subjects: Healthy males and nonpregnant females, general population  
Additional Comments:

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2. Type of study: Fed  
Design: Single-dose, two-way crossover in-vivo  
Strength: 100 mg  
Subjects: Healthy males and nonpregnant females, general population  
Additional comments:

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**Analytes to measure (in appropriate biological fluid):** Tapentadol in plasma

**Bioequivalence based on (90% CI):** Tapentadol

**Waiver request of in-vivo testing:** 50 and 75 mg based on (i) acceptable bioequivalence studies on the 100 mg strength, (ii) acceptable in-vitro dissolution testing across all strengths, and (iii) proportional similarity in the formulations across all strengths

### Dissolution test method and sampling times:

Please note that a **Dissolution Methods Database** is available to the public at the OGD website at <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/dissolution/>. Please find the dissolution information for this product at this website. Please conduct comparative dissolution testing on 12 dosage units each of all strengths of the test and reference products. Specifications will be determined upon review of the application.